

Madam Chair, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

This budget hearing is one of the most important in recent history. I've gone over the legislature's non-partisan Office of Fiscal Analysis report and have been keeping up with reports coming from my local representatives.

I'd first like to address the governor's proposed 200 million in new taxes. Where's discipline on government spending? People are already leaving this state in response to the burden this state places upon its constituents. Not only are the tax increases a burden but the nature of the increases are even more disturbing. Pistol permits are now going from 70 dollars to 300 dollars? It's prohibitive for the individual let alone a family. That is my 2nd Amendment right outlined and reaffirmed by the Constitution of the United States and Bill of Rights. You're basically placing an economic sanction upon said right by its egregious cost.

What I find REALLY disturbing is the outright assault on the developmentally disabled. I see cuts ACROSS THE BOARD on programs for the developmentally disabled. A very easy target. Has anyone even talked to the families affected by this? I can guarantee you the impact is FAR WORSE than cuts that should be equally laid upon the \$700 million in 'proposed' state employee union concessions. Where was the heavy hand when contemplating that distribution?

Finally, the proposed redistribution of aid from proposed tax increases to some of the worst financially run cities in the state! Is it just coincidence that those cities are sanctuary cities? Is this to supplement the loss of federal tax dollars that the President has clearly stated will be withheld for those cities violating federal law??? Many people of Connecticut are aware of this fact and we will not be silent.

Thank you for time.

Sincerely,
Anthony Correia